



Informal discussion

Work Areas – Item 3a



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Virtual

18 June 2020



Joint Programme of Work UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and FAO European Forestry Commission

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- The Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work was approved at Las2017 - the Joint Session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission, held in Warsaw, Poland on 9-13 October 2017.
- It covers the planned tasks, outputs and operational modalities for the 2018-2021 period.

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Period covered: 2018-2021

WA1

- data, monitoring and assessment

WA2

- policy dialogue and advice

WA3

- communication and outreach

WA4

- capacity building

Achievements since 2018

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■ WA1: Data, monitoring and assessment

Outputs

- Studies: *Forest Products Annual Market Reviews (2018,2019, 2020 forthcoming)*; *Guidelines for the Development of a Criteria and Indicator Set for Sustainable Forest Management*;
- First regional overview of the forest sector in Caucasus and Central Asia with study on *State of Forests of the Caucasus and Central Asia* and *Forest Landscape Restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia*
- **Website** on forest and forest sector data in the ECE region
- **Interactive database** on Forest Ownership in the ECE region.

Impact

- Improved monitoring and assessment of forest sector
- ECE member States able to provide satisfactory data on qualitative and quantitative indicators of sustainable forest management.
- Contribution to the achievement of Global Forest Goal 1 of the UNSPF and SDG 15.



Achievements since 2018

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■ WA2: Policy advice and dialogue

Outputs

- Ministerial Roundtable on Forest Landscape Restoration and the Boreal Challenge in the Caucasus and Central Asia
- **National Forest Policy Dialogue** in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Ukraine
- **Guidelines on the Promotion of Green Jobs in Forestry** published
- **Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy: Mid-term Review** was published providing a review of actions that have been implemented.
- Study **Forests and Water – Valuation and payments for ecosystem services** published.
- New **Team of Specialist on Boreal Forests** established
- Finalization of the **Forest Sector Outlook Study**

Impact

- 3 million ha of degraded lands committed for restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia
- The National Forest Policy Dialogue in Azerbaijan led to the **development of a new National Forestry Programme** for the country, which provides a sound legal basis for forest management and ensures the development of institutional capacities.



Achievements since 2018

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WA3: Communication and outreach

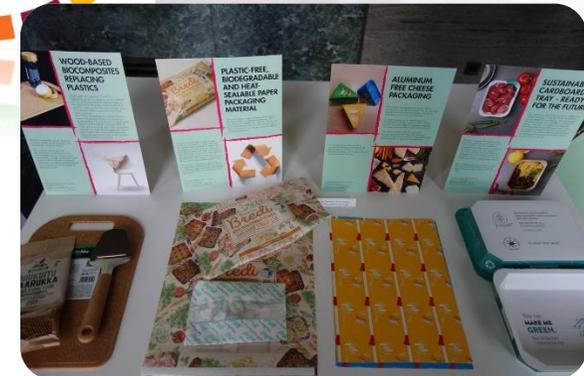
Outputs

- **International Day of Forests 2018, 2019: engaging outreach events**
- **Forests for Fashion Initiative** – production of short educational movie, exhibition at HLPF, UNEA4 and Climate Summit
- **Trees and Cities Challenge** is growing: <10 million trees to be planted
- **5th European Forest Week** celebrated with exhibition on *Forests and the Circular Economy: a future without plastics*
- **Global photo contest to showcase flora and fauna during lockdown** launched at World Environment Day 2020



Impact

- **Over 10 million trees** committed for planting in different cities, including Podgorica, Victoria, Vancouver, Tirana, Helsingborg, Bonn, Malaga, Mexico City, Barcarena, Turin, Sofia, Tbilisi and Nof Hagalil
- The Forests for Fashion Initiative, the International Day of Forests and the 5th European Forest Week resulted in **increased visibility and strengthened public support** for the value of sustainably produced wood and wood-based products.



Achievements since 2018

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■ WA4: Capacity-building

Outputs

- **Forest Congress for the Caucasus and Central Asia**
- **Bold call to action to bring 30 million hectares of degraded and deforested landscapes into restoration by 2030** in Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in support of the Bonn Challenge presented during the Climate Summit in New York.
- UNECE member of the **Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration**
- **Workshops on forest landscape restoration in preparation of a Ministerial Meeting in 2021**
- **Wood balances** workshop to harmonize data

Impact

- Commitments under the Bonn Challenge **increased to 3 million ha** in the Caucasus and Central Asia;
- National criteria and indicator sets in 5 Central Asian and Caucasian countries;
- Streamlined forest reporting.

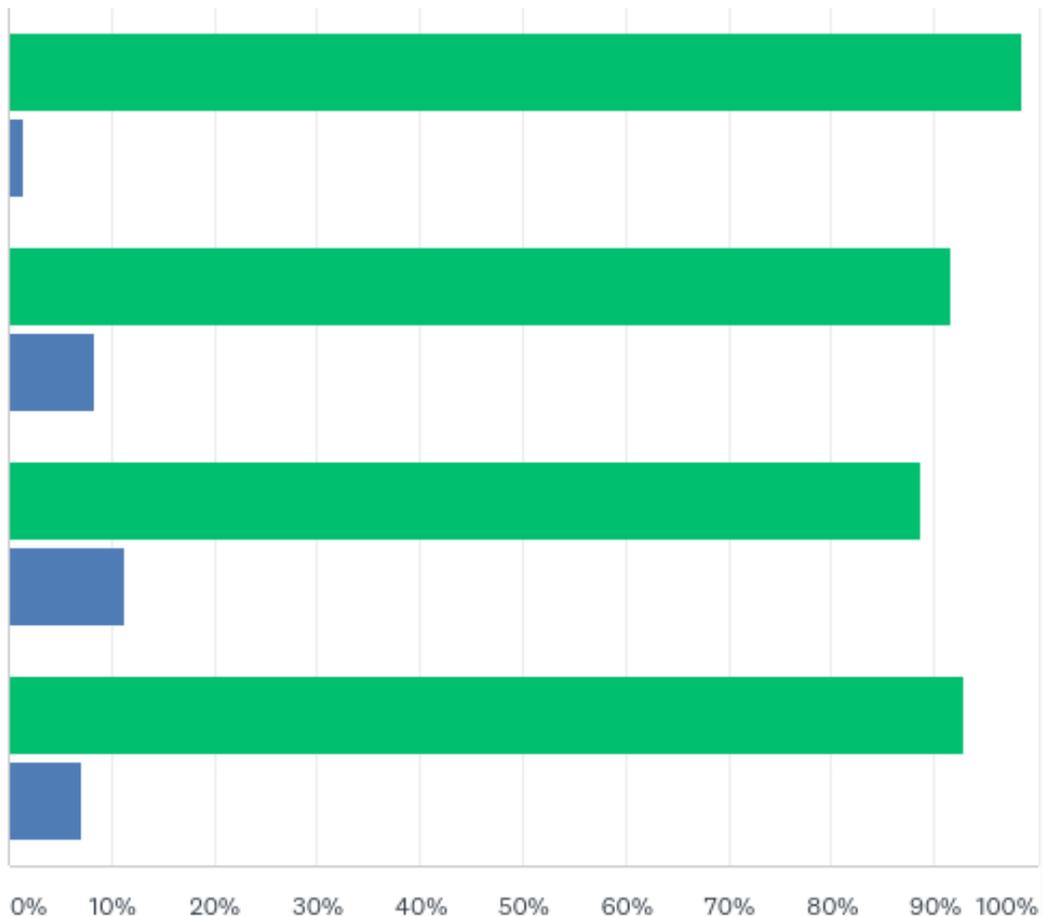


Are the existing work areas adequate to address key challenges in the region?

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WA1: Data,
Monitoring and
Assessment



Yes, work area is still adequate

No, work area is no longer adequate

Ideas for other work areas & services to include in next IPoW

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- Provide better information and guidelines on how to deal with forest damage and develop adaptation measures to climate change ;
- Generally, more emphasis on digitalization and information management throughout the work areas;
- More feedback-loops needed to exchange experiences and showcase research results throughout the year;
- Work more closely with Eurostat with aim to avoid duplicated activities and to harmonize methodology for data assessment in forestry sector. This will contribute to the decrease of workload and pressure on statistics experts;
- UNECE should be co-publisher in State of European Forests;
- Add urban forestry - contribution of Forests/trees in cities;
- Ensure that established programmes such as EFSOS are responding to current needs and imperatives e.g. recovery from COVID19/ green recovery
- Other important themes include key performance indicators (KPI) for forest sector development (assessment of efficiency), supply chain management.





Thank you!



UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

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